

020904
16076 U.S.PTO

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Mail Stop Patent Application
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT APPLICATION
Date: February 9, 2004
File No. 1201.68227

22264 U.S.PTO
10/774676

020904
Barcode

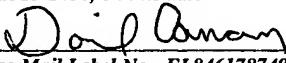
Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): David E. Goldberg
Tian-Li Yu
Ali Yassine

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

February 9, 2004
Date


Express Mail Label No.: EL846178749US

For: METHODS AND PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR OPTIMIZING PROBLEM CLUSTERING

Enclosed are:

- (X) 31 pages of specification, including 28 claims and an abstract.
() an executed oath or declaration, with power of attorney.
(X) an unexecuted oath or declaration, with power of attorney.
() sheet(s) of informal drawing(s).
(X) 6 sheet(s) of formal drawings(s).
() Assignment(s) of the invention to The Boards of Trustees of the University of Illinois and Assignment Cover Sheet.
() A check in the amount of \$ 40.00 to cover the fee for recording the assignment(s).
() Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and cited references.
() Claim for Priority and Priority Document.

Fee Calculation For Claims As Filed

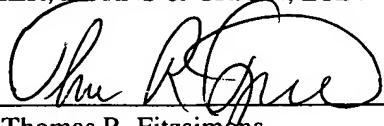
a) Basic Fee	\$ 770.00
b) Independent Claims <u>3</u> - 3 = <u>0</u> x \$ 86.00 = \$ <u>0.00</u>	
c) Total Claims <u>28</u> - 20 = <u>8</u> x \$ 18.00 = \$ <u>144.00</u>	
d) Fee for Multiple Dependent Claims	\$ 290.00 = \$ <u>0.00</u>
	Total Filing Fee \$ <u>914.00</u>

- (X) Applicant(s) qualifies as a Small Entity, reducing Filing Fee by half to \$ 457.00
(X) A check in the amount of \$ 457.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
() Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.
() Other _____
(X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: 
Thomas R. Fitzsimons
Registration No. 40,607